in the eyght Æglogue the ſame perſon was brought in,ſinging a Cantion of Co
lins making,as he ſayth.So that ſome doubt,that the perſons be different.

VVhilome) ſometime. Oaten reedes) Auena.

Ligge ſo layde) lye ſo fayne and vnluſtye. Dapper) pretye.

Frye) is a bold Metaphore, forced from the ſpawning fiſhes.for the multitude of young fiſh be called the frye.

To reſtraine.) This place ſeemeth to conſpyre vvith Plato,who in his firſt booke de Le,
gibus ſayth,that the firſt inuention of Poetry vvas of very vertuous intent. For
at what time an infinite number of youth vſually came to theyr great ſolemne
feaſtes called Panegyrica, vvhich they vſed euery fiue yeere to hold,ſome lear-
ned man being more hable thē the reſt,for ſpeciall gyftes of wytte and Muſicke,
vvould take vpon him to ſing fine verſes to the people, in prayſe eythet of ver-
tue or of victory or of immortality or ſuch like. At whoſe wonderful gyft al men
being aſtonied and as it vvere rauiſhed,vvith delight,thinking(as it was indeed)
that he vvas inſpired from aboue,called him vatem:vvhich kinde of men after-
vvarde framing their verſes to lighter muſick (as of muſick be many kinds,ſome
ſadder,ſome lighter,ſome martiall,ſome heroical: and ſo diuerſely eke affect the
mynds of mē)found out lighter matter of Poeſie alſo,ſome playing vvyth loue,
ſome ſcorning at mens faſhions, ſome povvred out in pleaſures, and ſo vvere
called Poetes or makers.

Sence bereaue) vvhat the ſecrete vvorking of Muſick is in the myndes of men, alvvell
appeareth hereby,that ſome of the auncient Philoſophers, and thoſe the moſte
vviſe, as Plato and Pythagoras held for opinion,that the mynd vvas made of a
certaine harmonie and muſicall nombers,for the great compaſſion & likenes of
affection in thone and in the other as alſo by that memorable hiſtory of Alex-
ander:to vvhom vvhen as Timotheus the great Muſitian playd the Phrygian
melodie,it is ſaid,that he vvas diſtraught vvith ſuch vnvvonted fury,that ſtreight
vvay ryſing from the table in great rage,he cauſed himſelfe to be armed,as rea-
dy to goe to vvarre (for that muſick is very vvar like:) And immediatly when-
as the Muſitian chaunged his ſtroke into the Lydian and Ionique harmony, he
vvas ſo furr from warring,that he ſat as ſtyl,as if he had bene in mattes of coun-
ſell.Such might is in muſick.vvherefore Plato and Ariſtotle forbid the Arabian
Melodie from children and youth. for that being altogither on the fyft and vij,
tone, it is of great force to molifie and quench the kindly courage,vvhich vſeth
to burne in yong breſts.So that it is not incredible which the Poete here ſayth,
that Muſick can bereaue the ſoule of ſence.

The ſhepheard that) Orpheus:of whom is ſayd, that by his excellent ſkil in Muſick and
Poetry,he recouered his wife Eurydice from hell.

Argus eyes) of Argus is before ſaid,that Iuno to him committed hir huſband Iupiter his
Paragon Iô,bicauſe he had an hundred eyes:but afterwarde Mercury vvyth hys
Muſick lulling Argus aſlepe, ſlevv him and brought Iô away, vvhoſe eyes it is
ſayd that Inno for his eternall memory placed in her byrd the Peacocks tayle.
for thoſe coloured ſpots indeede reſemble eyes.

VVoundleſſe armour) vnvvounded in warre,doe ruſt through long peace.

Diſplay) A poeticall metaphore:vvhereof the meaning is,that if the Poet liſt ſhovve his
ſkill

ſkill in matter of more dignitie,then is the hom
him offered of higher veyne and more Heroical
moſt gratious ſoueraign,vvhō(as before)he call
hoode and cheualrie pleaſe him better, that th
men,that are both vvorthy of his payne in they
uourers of hys ſkil and faculty.

The vvorthy) he meaneth (as I gueſſe) the moſt hono
Leyceſter,vvhō by his cogniſance (although th
rather then by his name he bevvrayeth,being n
ble princes be knovvn to country clovvne.

Slack) that is vvhen thou chaungeſt thy verſe from ſtate
pleaſaunce and delight.

The Millers) a kind of daunce. Ri

The Romiſh Tityrus) vvel knowē to be Virgile,vvho by
into the fauour of the Emperor Auguſtus,and b
kinde,then he erſt had doen.

VVhereon) in theſe three verſes are the three ſeuerall vv
teaching his flocks to feede,is meant his Æglog
Bucoliques.In ſinging of vvars and deadly drea

In derring doe) In manhoode and cheualrie.

For euer) He ſhevveth the cauſe,vvhy Poetes vvere wor
men;that is,that by them their vvorthines & val
Poſies be cōmended to al poſterities. vvherfor
uer bene ſo famous,as he is,but for Homeres im
aduantage,vvhich he had of Hector. And alſo th
to his tombe in Sigeus, vvith naturall teares b
to be honoured vvith ſo excellent a Poets work
onely by hys meanes. vvhich being declare
Tullies,is of Petrarch no leſſe worthely ſette fo

Giunto Alexandro a la famoſa tomba
Del fero Achille ſoſpirando diſſe
O fortunato che ſi chiara tromba. Tro

And that ſuch account hath bene alvvayes mad
that the vvorthy Scipio in all his vvarres agai
euermore in his company, and that in a moſt
Ennius:as alſo that Alexander deſtroying Thē
the famous Lyrick Poet Pindarus vvas borne in
ded ſtreightly,that no man ſhould vpon payne
houſe by fire or othervviſe:but alſo ſpecially ſpa
ded,that vvere of hys kinne.So fauoured he the
prayſe otherwiſe vvas in the ſame man no leſſe
ranſacking of king Darius coffers,vvhom he lat
in a little coffer of ſiluer the two bookes of Ho
ſpeciall ievvells and richeſſe,vvhich he taking t
his boſome,and thother euery night layde vnde